

By: Representatives Moody,  
Holland

To: Public Health and  
Welfare

HOUSE BILL NO. 2  
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO BRING FORWARD SECTION 41-59-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF  
2 1972, WHICH DEFINES "AUTO-INJECTOR" AND "FIRST RESPONDER" FOR THE  
3 PURPOSE OF THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LAW; TO BRING FORWARD  
4 SECTIONS 2, 3 AND 4, CHAPTER 623, LAWS OF 2002, WHICH PROVIDE THAT  
5 FIRST RESPONDERS AND ALL LEVELS OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS,  
6 WHEN AUTHORIZED BY MEDICAL DIRECTION, MAY CARRY AND ADMINISTER  
7 EPINEPHRINE FROM AUTO-INJECTORS TO TREAT PERSONS EXPERIENCING  
8 ALLERGIC REACTIONS AND ANAPHYLAXIS, PROVIDE FOR CERTIFICATION OF  
9 FIRST RESPONDERS BY THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH, AND AUTHORIZE THE  
10 STATE BOARD OF HEALTH TO ISSUE REGULATIONS FOR FIRST RESPONDER  
11 BASIC LIFE SUPPORT; TO AMEND SECTION 5, CHAPTER 623, LAWS OF 2002,  
12 TO DELAY THE EFFECTIVE DATE ON THE PRECEDING PROVISIONS UNTIL JULY  
13 1, 2004; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

15 **SECTION 1.** Section 41-59-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
16 brought forward as follows:

17 41-59-3. As used in this chapter, unless the context  
18 otherwise requires, the term:

19 (a) "Ambulance" shall mean any privately or publicly  
20 owned land or air vehicle that is especially designed,  
21 constructed, modified or equipped to be used, maintained and  
22 operated upon the streets, highways or airways of this state to  
23 assist persons who are sick, injured, wounded, or otherwise  
24 incapacitated or helpless;

25 (b) "Auto-injector" means a spring-loaded needle and  
26 syringe with a single dose of medicine that will automatically  
27 release and inject the medicine.

28 (c) "Permit" shall mean an authorization issued for an  
29 ambulance vehicle and/or a special use EMS vehicle as meeting the  
30 standards adopted pursuant to this chapter;



31           (d) "License" shall mean an authorization to any  
32 person, firm, corporation, or governmental division or agency to  
33 provide ambulance services in the State of Mississippi;

34           (e) "Emergency medical technician" shall mean an  
35 individual who possesses a valid emergency medical technician's  
36 certificate issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter;

37           (f) "Certificate" shall mean official acknowledgment  
38 that an individual has successfully completed the recommended  
39 basic emergency medical technician training course referred to in  
40 this chapter which entitles that individual to perform the  
41 functions and duties of an emergency medical technician;

42           (g) "Board" shall mean the State Board of Health;

43           (h) "Department" means the Mississippi State Department  
44 of Health, Division of Emergency Medical Services;

45           (i) "Executive officer" shall mean the Executive  
46 Officer of the State Board of Health, or his designated  
47 representative;

48           (j) "First Responder" means a person who uses a limited  
49 amount of equipment to perform the initial assessment of and  
50 intervention with sick, wounded or otherwise incapacitated  
51 persons, who (i) is trained to assist other EMS personnel by  
52 successfully completing, within the previous two (2) years, an  
53 approved "First Responder: National Standard Curriculum" training  
54 program, as developed and promulgated by the United States  
55 Department of Transportation, (ii) is nationally registered as a  
56 First Responder by the National Registry of Emergency Medical  
57 Technicians; and (iii) is certified as a First Responder by the  
58 Mississippi State Department of Health, Division of Emergency  
59 Medical Services;

60           (k) "Invalid vehicle" shall mean any privately or  
61 publicly owned land or air vehicle which is maintained, operated  
62 and used only to transport persons routinely who are convalescent



or otherwise nonambulatory and do not require the service of an emergency medical technician while in transit;

(l) "Special use EMS vehicle" means any privately or publicly owned land, water or air emergency vehicle used to support the provision of emergency medical services. These vehicles shall not be used routinely to transport patients;

(m) "Trauma care system" or "trauma system" means a formally organized arrangement of health care resources that has been designated by the department by which major trauma victims are triaged, transported to and treated at trauma care facilities;

(n) "Trauma care facility" or "trauma center" means a hospital located in the State of Mississippi or a Level I trauma care facility or center located in a state contiguous to the State of Mississippi that has been designated by the department to perform specified trauma care services within a trauma care system pursuant to standards adopted by the department. Participation in this designation by each hospital is voluntary;

(o) "Trauma registry" means a collection of data on patients who receive hospital care for certain types of injuries. Such data are primarily designed to ensure quality trauma care and outcomes in individual institutions and trauma systems, but have the secondary purpose of providing useful data for the surveillance of injury morbidity and mortality.

**SECTION 2.** Section 2, Chapter 623, Laws of 2002, is brought forward as follows:

Section 2. When authorized by medical direction, a First Responder, an Emergency Medical Technician-Basic, an Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate or an Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic may carry and administer, or aid in the administration of, a dose of epinephrine from an auto-injector to treat persons experiencing allergic reactions and anaphylaxis.

**SECTION 3.** Section 3, Chapter 623, Laws of 2002, is brought forward as follows:



96           Section 3. Any person desiring certification as a First  
97   Responder shall apply to the board using forms prescribed by the  
98   board. Each application for a first responder certificate shall  
99   be accompanied by a certificate fee to be fixed by the board,  
100   which shall be paid to the board. Upon the successful completion  
101   of the board's approved first responder training program, the  
102   board shall make a determination of the applicant's qualifications  
103   as a First Responder as set forth in the regulations promulgated  
104   by the board, and shall issue a first responder certificate to the  
105   applicant.

106           **SECTION 4.** Section 4, Chapter 623, Laws of 2002, is brought  
107   forward as follows:

108           Section 4. The Mississippi State Board of Health is  
109   authorized to promulgate and enforce rules and regulations to  
110   provide for the best and most effective emergency medical care,  
111   and to comply with national standards for first responder basic  
112   life support. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, first  
113   responder personnel may be authorized to provide first responder  
114   basic life support services as defined by rules and regulations  
115   promulgated by the State Board of Health.

116           Rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to this authority  
117   shall, as a minimum:

118               (a) Define and authorize functions and training  
119   programs for first responder personnel; provided that all such  
120   training programs shall meet or exceed the performance  
121   requirements of the most current training program "First  
122   Responder: National Standard Curriculum" as developed by the  
123   United States Department of Transportation, National Highway  
124   Traffic Safety Administration.

125               (b) Specify minimum operational requirements which will  
126   include, but not be limited to, medical control over the  
127   administration of a dose of epinephrine from an auto-injector.



128                   (c) Specify minimum testing and certification  
129 requirements and provide for continuing education and periodic  
130 recertification for all first responder personnel.

131           **SECTION 5.** Section 5, Chapter 623, Laws of 2002, is amended  
132 as follows:

133           Section 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
134 and after July 1, 2004.

135           **SECTION 6.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
136 and after its passage.

